

Join the PTSTF Zoom Meeting

Forward Pinellas is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Pinellas Trail Security Task Force

Time: Jan 12, 2021 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85650413444?pwd=Rmt3cjQrUVVFU0RiNFU4SWx3R0pkZz09>

Meeting ID: 856 5041 3444

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**PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK
FORCE (PTSTF) MEETING AGENDA**

January 12, 2021 - 9:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 13, 2020**
3. **TRENDS AND CONDITIONS REPORT**
4. **FORWARD PINELLAS EQUITY ASSESSMENT**
5. **QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER**
6. **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS**
 - Sheriff's Office
 - Belleair
 - Clearwater
 - Gulfport
 - Largo
 - St. Petersburg
 - Tarpon Springs
 - Animal Services
 - Public Safety Services
 - Pinellas County Risk Management
 - Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates
7. **REPORT ON TRAIL USER COUNT DATA**
8. **REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY**
9. **REPORT ON TRAIL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES**
10. **OTHER BUSINESS**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

- **NOTICE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATIVES - IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR INCIDENT/OFFENSE REPORT TO ANGELA RYAN, aryan@forwardpinellas.org**

IF YOU WOULD PREFER, YOU CAN FAX THE REPORT TO THE PINELLAS COUNTY MPO at (727) 464-8212.

THANK YOU.

NEXT PTSTF MEETING – APRIL 13, 2021

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Office of Human Rights, 400 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33756; [(727) 464-4062 (V/TDD)] at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Appeals: Certain public meetings result in actions taken by the public board, commission or agency that may be appealed; in such case persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at a public meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 12, 2021

2. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2020



SUMMARY

The summary minutes of the October 13, 2020 Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting are attached.

ATTACHMENTS: Pinellas Trail Security Task Force Summary Minutes – October 13, 2020

ACTION: Approval of the October Meeting Summary

PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK FORCE
MEETING Summary
October 13, 2020

The following is a summary of the October 13, 2020 Forward Pinellas - Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting, which was held virtually, via Zoom platform. The Security Task Force meets at least quarterly during the year.

IN ATTENDANCE

Officer Ron Wolfson, Chairman	St. Petersburg Police Department & Volunteer Coordinator
Officer Allison Daniels	Belleair Police Department
Officer Tony Boone	Tarpon Springs Police Department
Officer Zack Mills	Gulfport Police Department
Officer V. Tran	Largo Police Department
Deputy Terrance Fallahee	Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Chief Ranger Carol Gray	Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources
Caroline Lanford	Pinellas County Planning
Lyle Fowler	Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources
Gary Brown	Pinellas County Animal Services
Dave Mangicaro	Pinellas County Risk Management
Lynn Abbott	Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration
Joan Rice	Pinellas County Public Works Traffic Division
Lucas Cruse	City of St. Petersburg Bicycle Pedestrian Coordinator
Scott Daniels	Friends of the Pinellas Trail
Jim Wedlake	Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger
Bill Romanski	Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger
Phyllis Romanski	Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger
Stuart Schwartzreich	Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger
Julie Bond	CUTR
Al Bartolotta	Forward Pinellas Staff
Angela Ryan	Forward Pinellas Staff
Maria Kelly	Forward Pinellas Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Ronald Wolfson, St. Petersburg Police Officer, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Angela Ryan reviewed the Zoom meeting guidelines and the attendees were announced by Ms. Maria Kelly, there were 23 attendees.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY – July 14, 2020

The summary from the July 14, 2020 meeting was approved with no corrections.

3. PRESENTATION: SAFE STREETS PINELLAS

Ms. Julie Bond, University of South Florida Center for Urban Transportation (CUTR) shared a presentation with the committee, Road to Zero. CUTR was awarded a Road to Zero Safe System Innovation grant in 2019 to examine public narratives on bicycle and pedestrian deaths. The project recognizes the inherent bias in the way pedestrian and bicycle fatalities are presented in the media. After nine years of analyzing written and oral reports by the media on bicycle and pedestrian crashes, the results have

been presented in public workshops designed to educate people on the topic while identifying was to provide a revised framework for communicating with the public on bicycle and pedestrian fatalities resulting from vehicle collisions. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

4. RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS (RRFB's)

Ms. Angela Ryan, Forward Pinellas staff, shared a presentation with the committee on Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB's). Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) are pedestrian activated traffic control devices typically installed at mid-block crosswalk locations to help people safely cross the street. Florida Law requires motorists to stop for a pedestrian who enters a crosswalk. An RRFB helps to protect the pedestrian using a crosswalk by alerting oncoming motorists of their presence. There are currently over 400 RRFBs in Pinellas County, most of them within the City of St. Petersburg. The RRFBs have proven to be highly effective in Pinellas County and around the country. Despite the proven effectiveness of the RRFB's, two bills, Senate Bill 100 and House Bill 1371, were filed during the 2020 Florida legislative session that would have effectively disallowed them in the state. Neither bill passed, but it is anticipated that similar versions will be proposed in the 2021 legislature. Forward Pinellas will be engaging its committees and partners to support the continued use of RRFB's and to help educate the public about their purpose and importance. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

5. QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER

Chief Ranger Carol Gray, Parks and Conservation Resources (PCR), reported there were no significant incidents in the last quarter, other than evidence of camping at the US19 Underpass as well as some graffiti. Ranger Gray worked with Tarpon Springs PD to clean up the graffiti and will continue to work with them to stay on top of the situation. The installation of the 911 Trail Markers has been completed on all sections of the trail managed by PCR. Still dealing with challenges of the paint adhering to the concrete but will keep working at it.

6. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS

A. Sheriff's Office

Deputy Fallahee was unable to acquire a statistical report prior to the meeting but will submit one as soon as possible for distribution.

B. Belleair

Officer Allison Daniels of the Belleair Police Department reported six field interview reports from people on the trail at night. One officer found a couple sleeping in the grassy area of the trail and they left without incident.

C. Clearwater

No one attended from the City of Clearwater Police Department.

D. Gulfport

Officer Zack Mills of the Gulfport Police Department reported that on September 21st, just after 6 am near the Calm Bayou section which is the southeast corner of the City of Gulfport right next to St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue responded to a car fire on the Pinellas Trail behind the Twin Brooks Golf Course near 22nd Ave S and 41st Street S. After the fire was out, a body was discovered in the trunk of the vehicle. A cyclist discovered and reported the car fire. Gulfport is currently working with the St. Petersburg PD to investigate the incident.

E. Largo

Officer V. Tran of the Largo PD reported 9 calls for service, but nothing significant to report for any trail related incidences. There were a couple of sightings of homeless people who were just asked to leave.

F. St. Petersburg

No one attended from the St. Petersburg Police Department. Chair Wolfe to check to see if someone new will be attending for St. Petersburg.

G. Tarpon Springs

Officer Tony Boone was having trouble connecting audio, we will send a message to have the report forwarded.

H. Animal Services

Mr. Gary Brown, Pinellas County Animal Services, reported there were no reported calls for service on the Trail.

I. Public Safety Services

Ms. Lynn Abbott, Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration, reported there were 52 calls that translated into 28 incidents where 13 of those were bike related some involving intoxication. There were four heat exposures, three homeless/sleeping reports and two attempted suicides.

J. Pinellas County Risk Management

Mr. Dave Mangicaro, Pinellas County Risk Management, stated there was nothing to report at this time.

K. Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates

Chair Wolfson stated that the volunteers have not been active since March due to COVID and hopes to bring them back soon based on what is happening. Ranger Gray reported that the Auxiliary Rangers will be allowed to return for biking and walking, absolutely voluntary with no reporting to work sites. Volunteer hours can be entered on the county website.

7. AUTOMATIC TRAIL COUNTERS

Ms. Angela Ryan, Forward Pinellas staff, reviewed the counter reports for June, July and August 2020 which were included in the agenda packet. 1.5 million people were counted on the trail from January through August 2020.

8. REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Ms. Joan Rice, Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW), shared an update on the Trail construction activity. Construction has begun on the North Loop between Enterprise Road and John Chesnut Park. This project will take about two years to complete. The segment of the North Loop that is South of Sunset Pointe is nearing completion of construction, opening in November. For the South Loop, between Haynes Bayshore and 126th Avenue, some funding for design and all construction funding has been received. Design will begin in 2022, construction in 2025.

9. REPORT ON TRAIL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

Scott Daniels, Friends of the Pinellas Trail, a meeting was held on October 12th, via Zoom. Things are moving forward for the 30th Anniversary of the Pinellas Trail, which will be recognized on December 5th, 2020, however due to the corona virus, the gathering cannot take place. Pinellas County Public Works has written a proclamation going to the Board of County Commissioners, so they can spread the news about the 30th Anniversary of the Pinellas Trail. And this will be sent out to all the municipalities, along with graphics to help celebrate. Social media events are also planned every day for 30 days, prior to December 5th. Friends of Pinellas Trail will be involved with the local media and the Chambers to get the word out into the community to help celebrate its 30th Anniversary.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wolfson adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m. The next PTSTF meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2021.

SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas' *Countywide Trends and Conditions Report* provides an annual snapshot of the county's transportation system, including roads, trails, sidewalks, bike lanes, and transit services. In addition, the report provides data on economic and land use activity, waterborne transportation and emerging technologies. The report serves as a tool to evaluate progress toward achieving the objectives of the Long-Range Transportation Plan, identify improvements to address safety concerns and congestion problems, inform transportation safety studies and transportation project design, and target law enforcement activities related to safety.

This agenda item will include a brief presentation by Forward Pinellas staff on the trends witnessed in the countywide transportation network, including those related to the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians.

ATTACHMENT(S): [Countywide Trends and Conditions Report](#)

ACTION: None Required, Informational Item Only

SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas is conducting an equity assessment of its agency operations and planning activities. The goal is to ensure that its mission to “provide leadership to align resources and plans that help to achieve a compelling vision for Pinellas County, our individual communities and our region” is both inclusionary and equitable. As part of this assessment, Forward Pinellas will conduct research, stakeholder engagement, and analysis for the development of a forward-looking strategic plan to enhance equity within Forward Pinellas staff, governance and committee structure, as well as Forward Pinellas work products. The equity assessment will research the systems, policies, and practices that have resulted in inequity, particularly among ethnic minorities in Pinellas County, and develop a series of actions to ensure that our work as the countywide planning agency is inclusive and results in equitable outcomes for the entire community. This is expected to include the development of both programmatic and structural changes for the near-term, mid-term and long-term.

Forward Pinellas staff will provide a brief presentation highlighting the scope of work, which will be conducted by agency staff, and the stakeholder engagement process. The intent is to solicit stakeholders from the Pinellas Trail Security Task Force to assist with the Equity Assessment in the capacity of stakeholder or to provide empirical data. Forward Pinellas staff will answer any questions or comments regarding the stakeholder engagement process and stakeholder expectations as part of the scope of work discussion.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only

SUMMARY

This item will include the monthly data summary reports for the automatic trail counters along the Pinellas Trail. Note that average hourly data has been included with the reports.

ATTACHMENT: Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary Reports:

- September 2020
- October 2020
- November 2020

ACTION: No Action Required, informational item only

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
September 1 – September 30, 2020 (30 days)

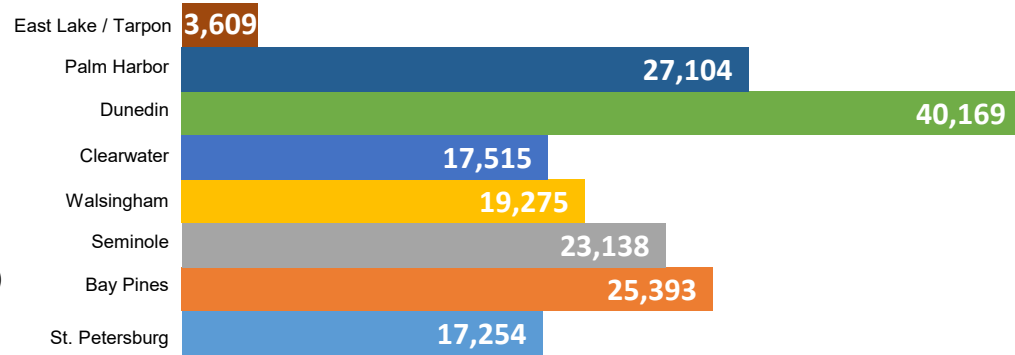
September 2020

30-Day Count Total: **136,282**
Daily Average Users: 1,585

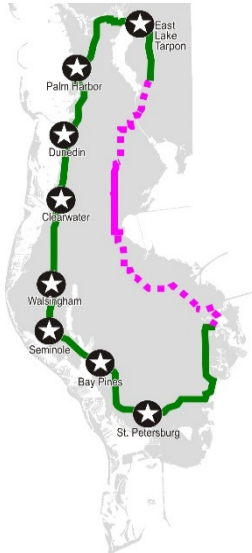
Highest Daily Totals:

- #1 – Saturday, September 20th (Dunedin - 1,795)
- #2 – Sunday, September 28th (Palm Harbor - 1,291)
- #3 – Saturday, September 27th (Bay Pines - 951)

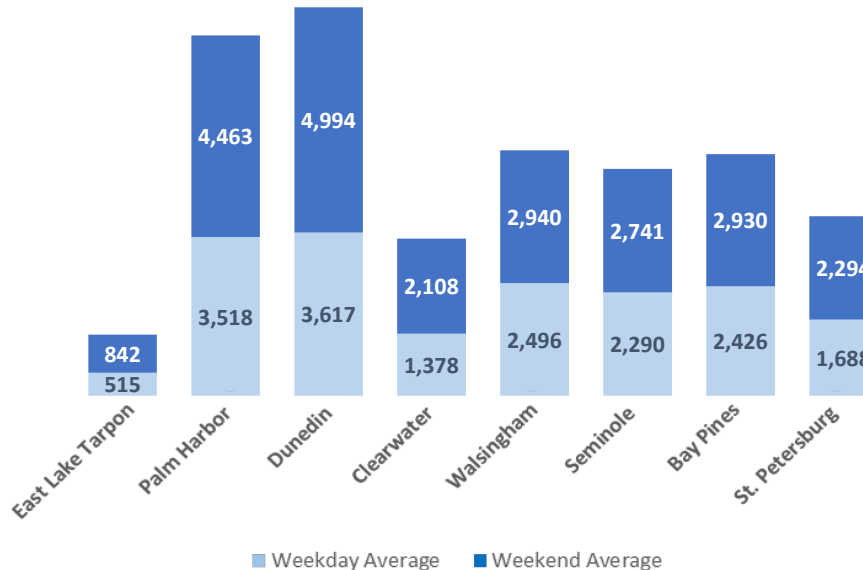
September Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Weekday & Weekend Profile

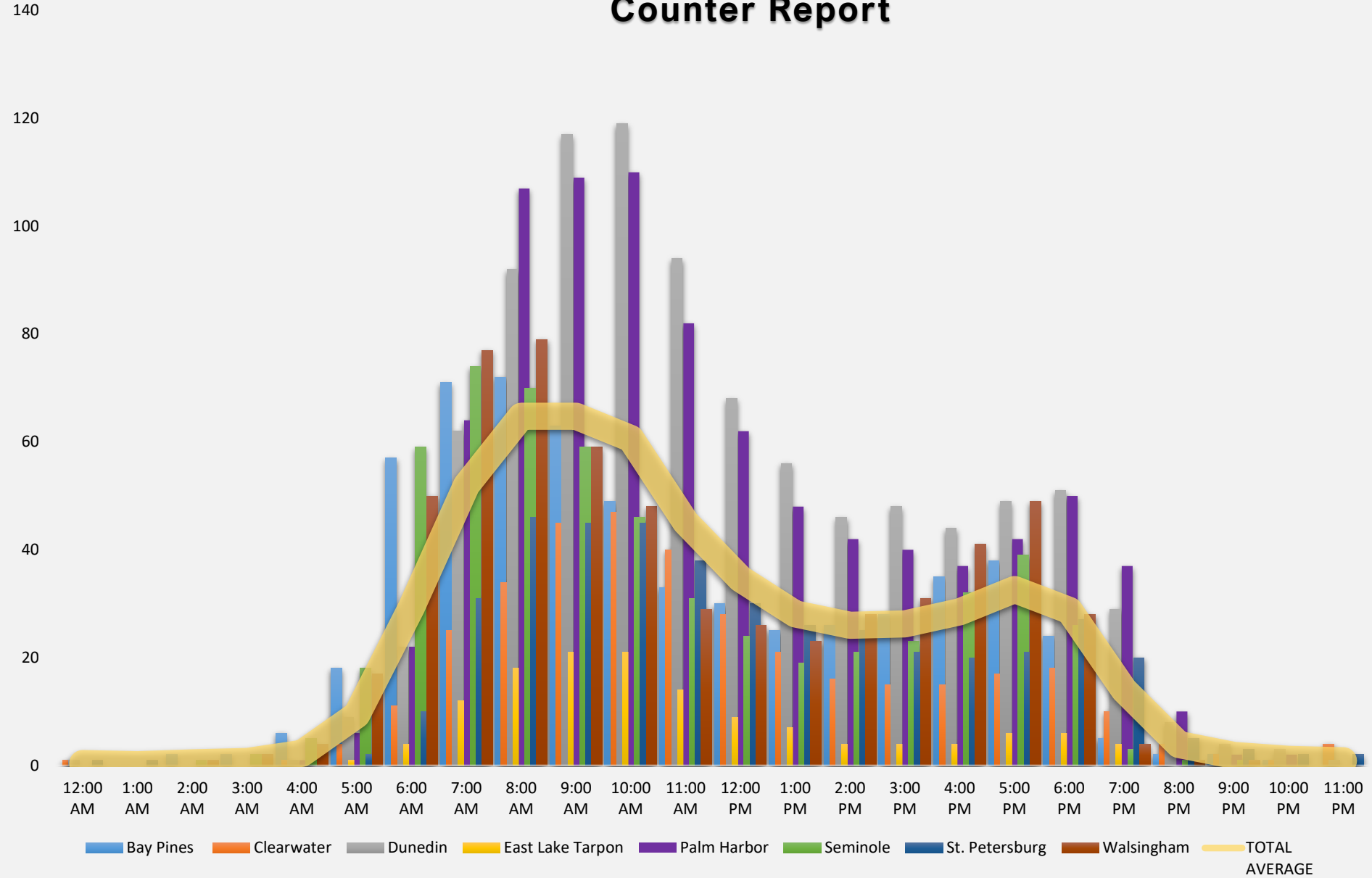


Trail User Mode Split

Counter Location	Walking (Icon)	Bicycling (Icon)
East Lake	3%	97%
Palm Harbor:	16%	84%
Dunedin:	1%	99%
Clearwater:	11%	89%
Walsingham:	17%	83%
Seminole:	11%	89%
Bay Pines:	1%	99%
St. Petersburg:	1%	99%

Source: Forward Pinellas August 2020
National Weather Service: [September 2020](#)

September 2020 Average Hourly Counter Report



Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

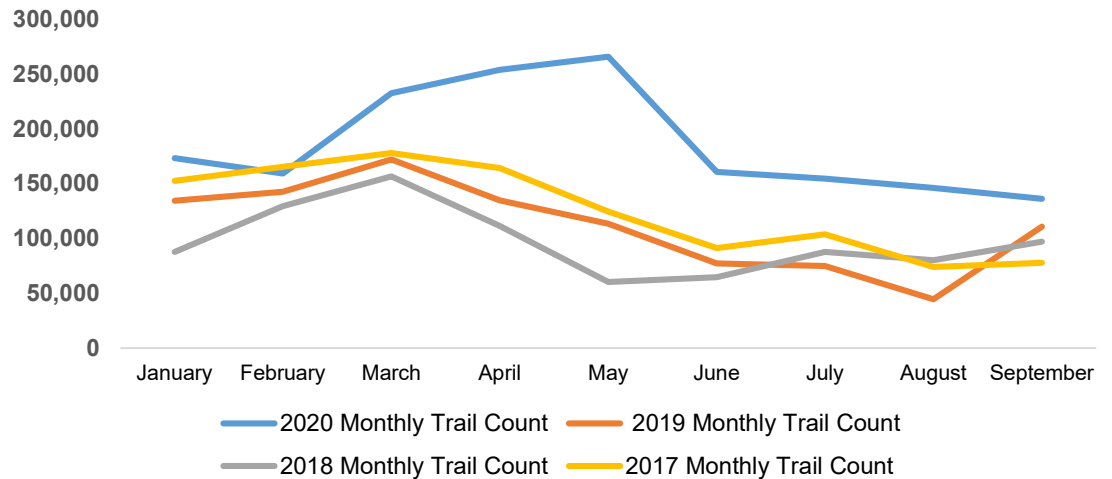
Period: January – September, 2020 Data*



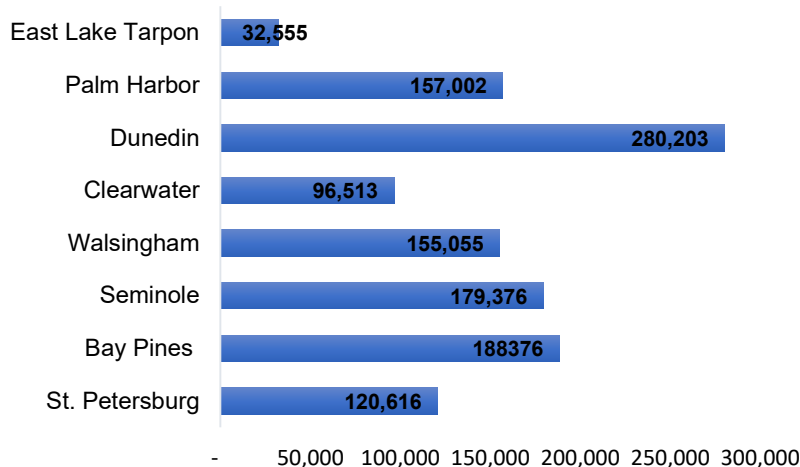
**Jan-Sep, 2020 Total Count:
1,683,051**

** Technical issues with the Clearwater and East Lake / Tarpon Counters resulting in several missing days of data during February, March and June.*

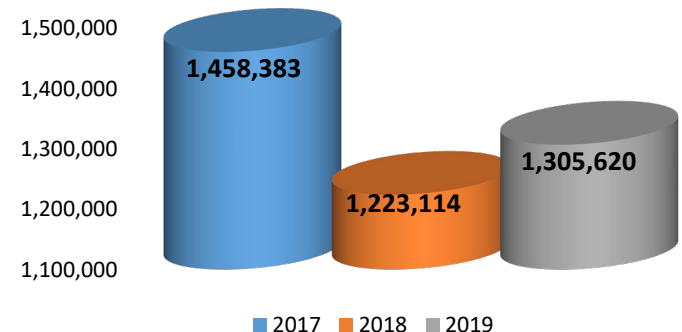
Monthly Trail Counts



Counter Data Year to Date by Location



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 - 2019



* 2010 – 2016 Survey Data & 2017-2019 Counter Data. Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
October 1 – October 31, 2020 (31 days)

October 2020

31-Day Count Total: **159,735**

Daily Average Users: 5,153

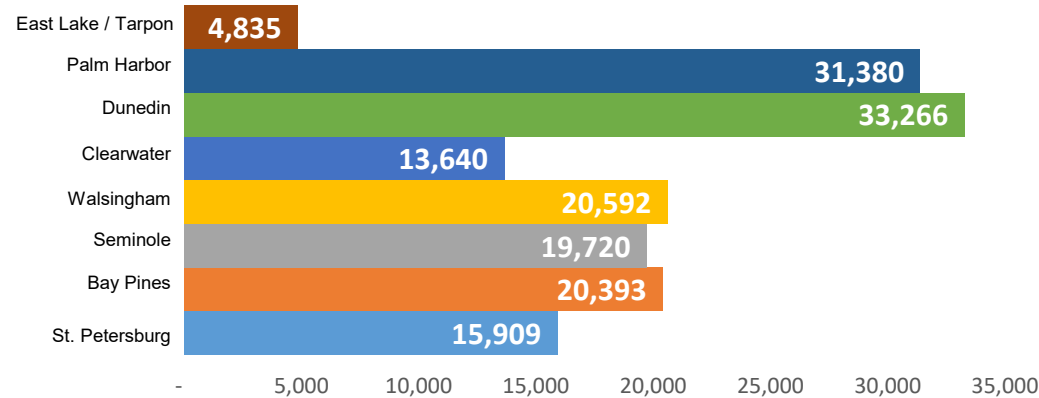
Highest Daily Totals:

#1 – Saturday, October 17th (Dunedin - 1,959)

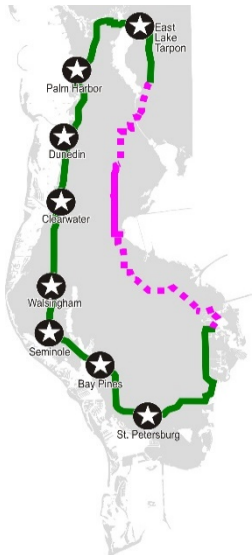
#2 – Saturday, October 17rd (Palm Harbor – 1,799)

#3 – Saturday, October 31th (Bay Pines – 1,028)

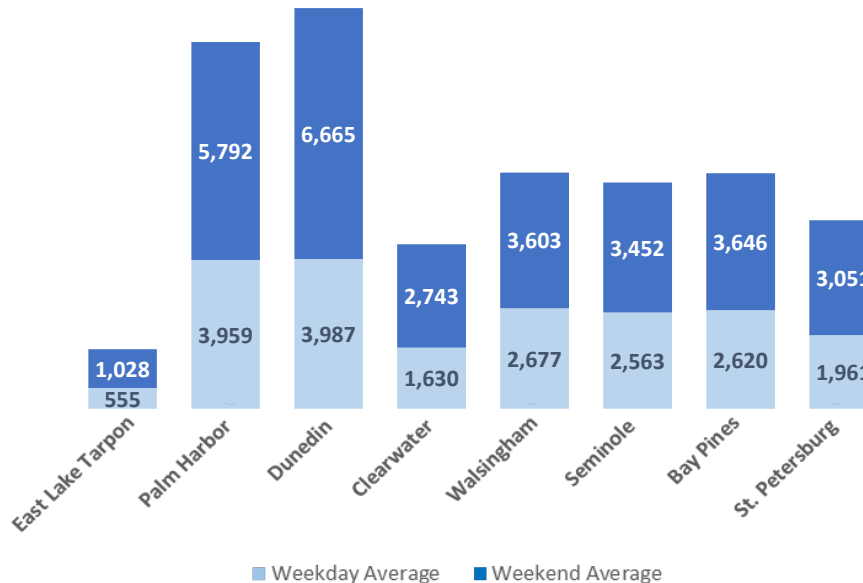
October Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

Counter Location	Walking (Pedestrian)	Bicycling (Bicycle)
East Lake / Tarpon:	3%	97%
Palm Harbor:	16%	84%
Dunedin:	2%	98%
Clearwater:	8%	92%
Walsingham:	28%	72%
Seminole:	13%	87%
Bay Pines:	2%	98%
St. Petersburg:	1%	99%

Source: Forward Pinellas October 2020
National Weather Service: [October 2020](#)

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

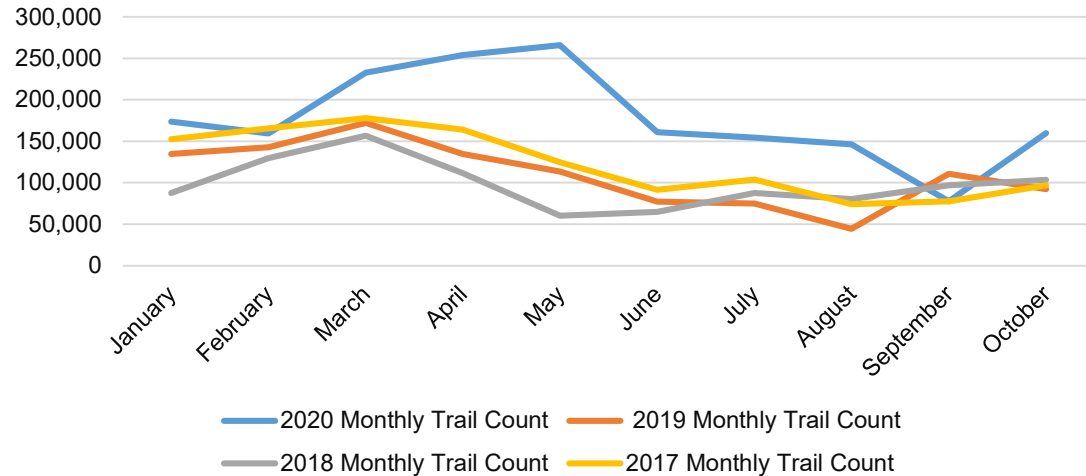
Period: January – October, 2020 Data*



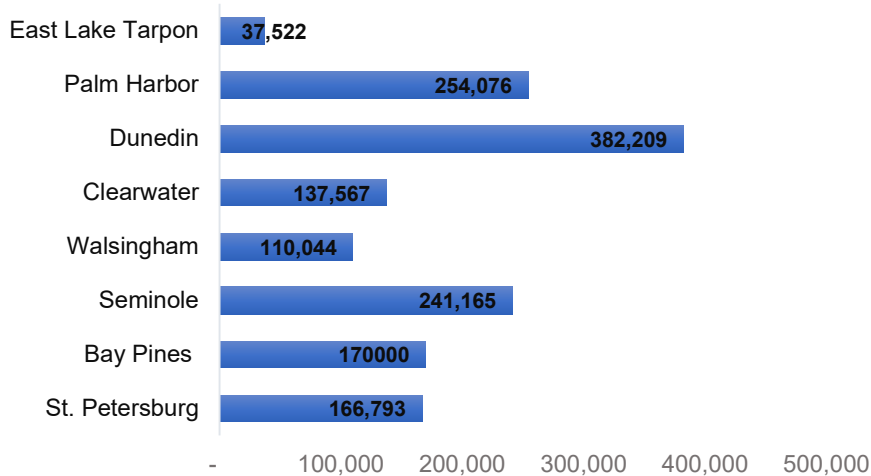
**Jan-Oct, 2020 Total Count:
1,784,200**

** Technical issues with the Clearwater and East Lake / Tarpon Counters resulting in several missing days of data during February, March and June.*

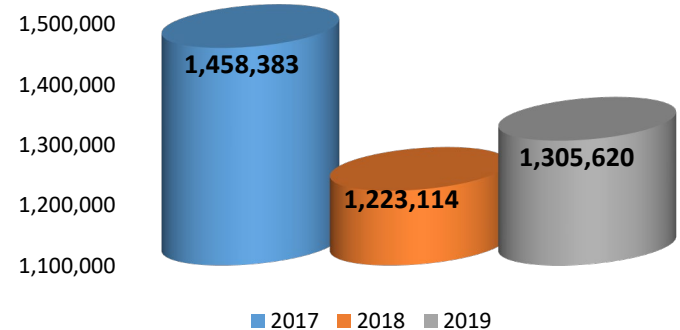
Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2020



Counter Data Year to Date by Location



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 - 2019



* 2010 – 2016 Survey Data & 2017-2019 Counter Data. Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary



Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
November 1 – November 30, 2020 (30 days)

November 2020

30-Day Count Total: **162,633**

Daily Average Users: **5,246**

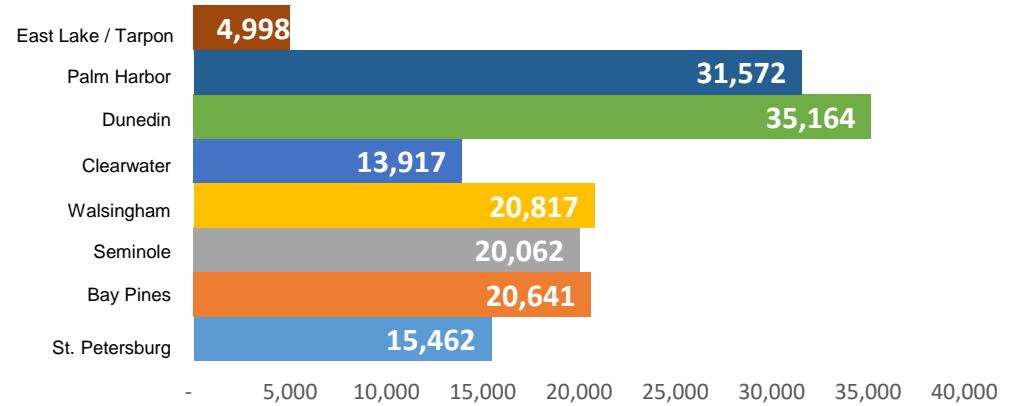
Highest Daily Totals:

#1 – Saturday, November 21st (Dunedin - 2,066)

#2 – Saturday, November 21st (Palm Harbor - 1,844)

#3 – Saturday, November 28th (Bay Pines - 1,207)

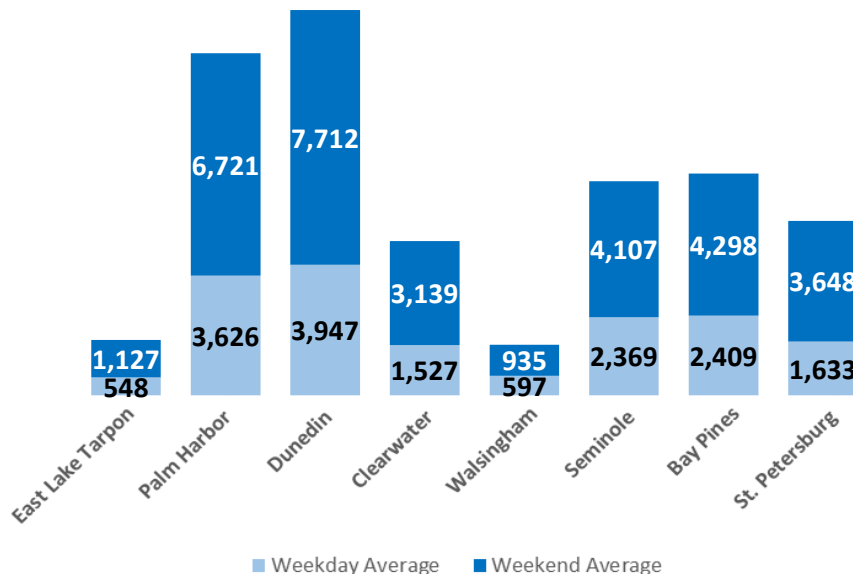
November Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Weekday & Weekend Profile

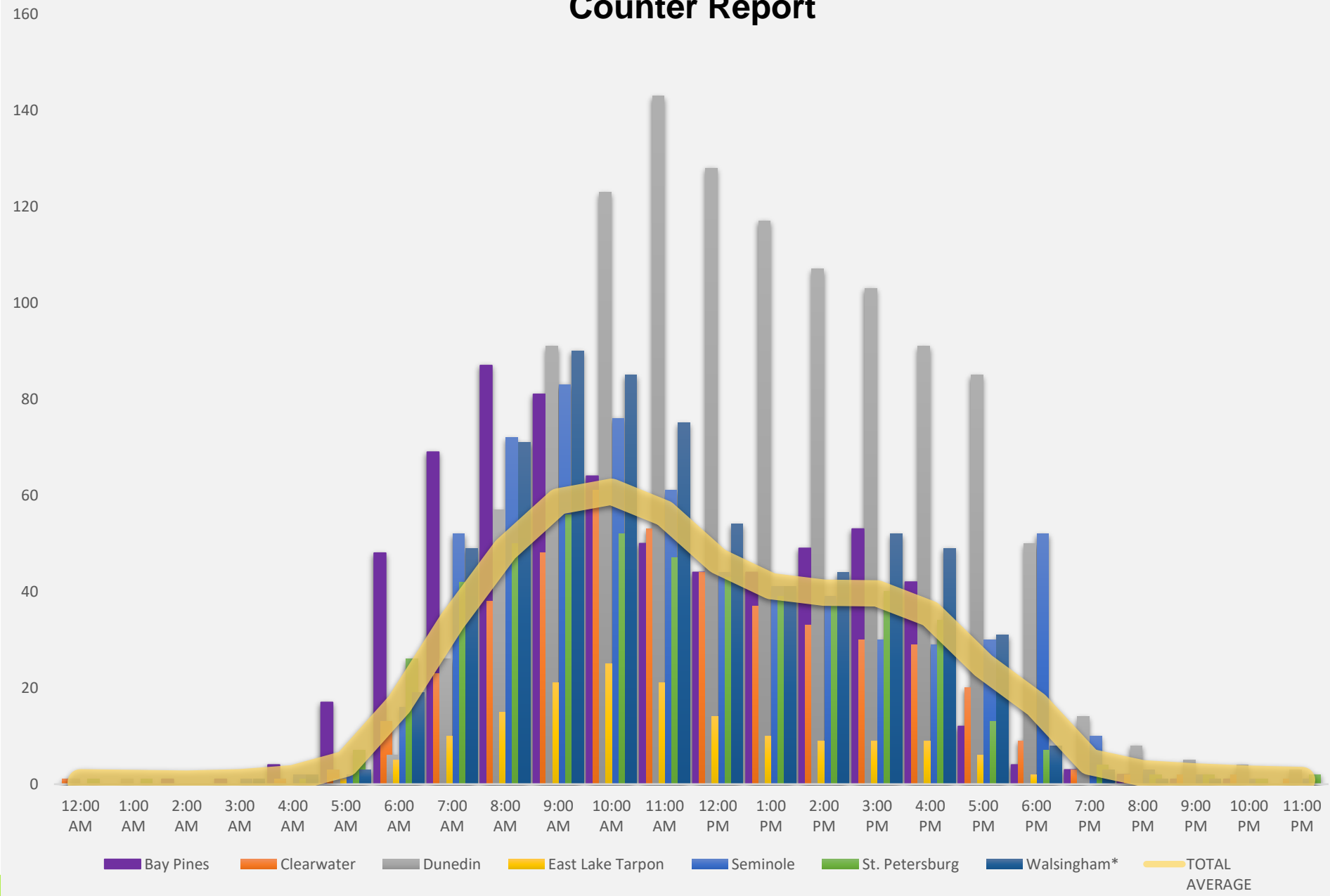


Trail User Mode Split

Counter Location	Walking (Pedestrian Icon)	Bicycling (Bicycle Icon)
East Lake / Tarpon:	3%	97%
Palm Harbor:	17%	83%
Dunedin:	3%	97%
Clearwater:	9%	91%
Walsingham:	21%	79%
Seminole:	15%	85%
Bay Pines:	2%	98%
St. Petersburg:	1%	99%

Source: Forward Pinellas November 2020
National Weather Service: [November 2020](#)

November 2020 Average Hourly Counter Report



Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

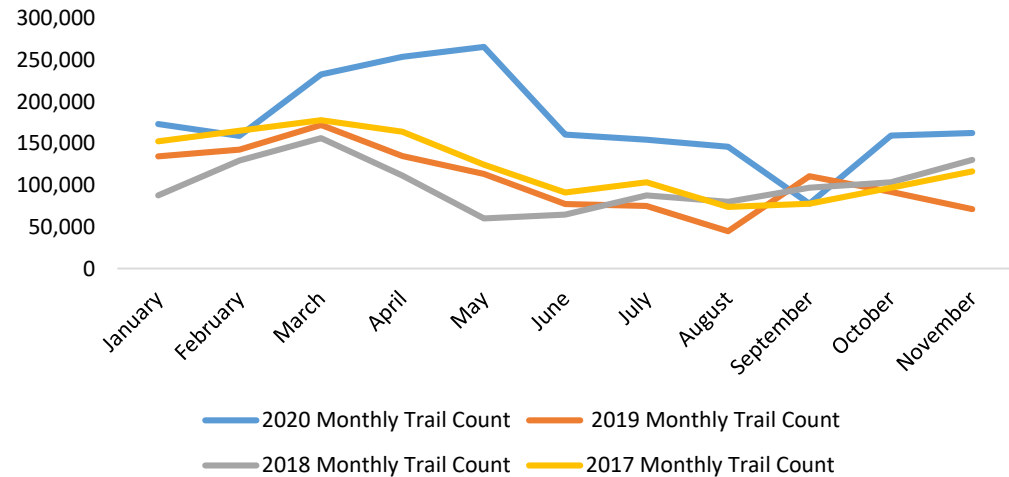
Period: January – November 2020 Data*



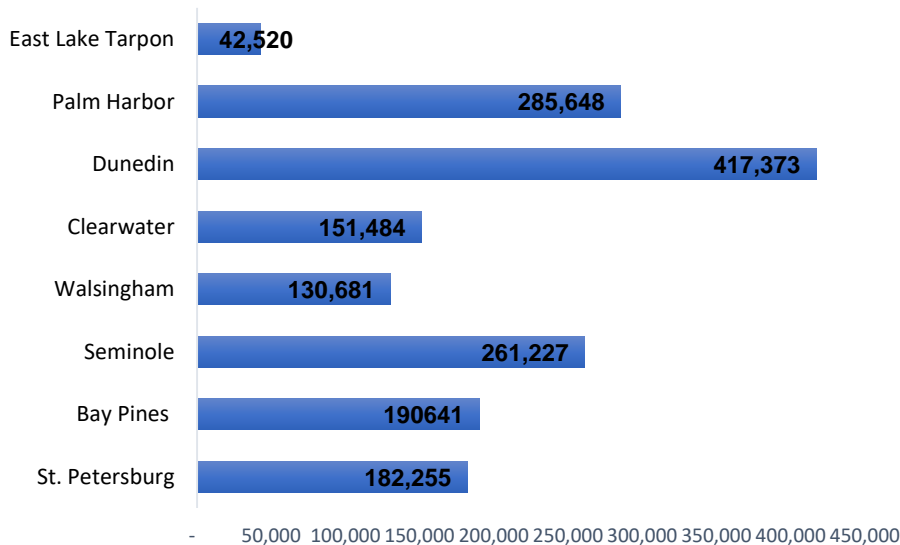
**Jan-Nov 2020 Total Count:
1,946,833**

** Technical issues with the Clearwater and East Lake / Tarpon Counters resulting in several missing days of data during February, March and June.*

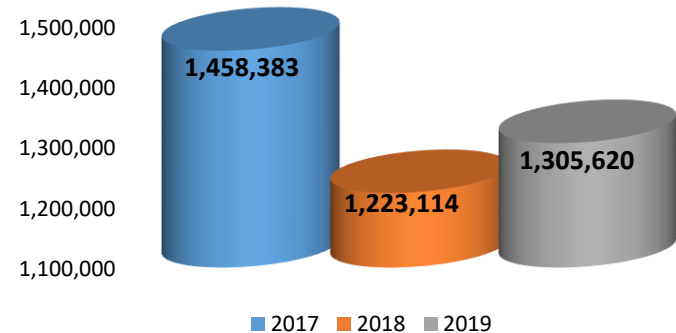
Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2020



Counter Data Year to Date by Location



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 - 2019



* 2010 – 2016 Survey Data & 2017-2019 Counter Data. Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 12, 2020

8. Trail Construction Activity Report



TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS JANUARY 2020

Pinellas Trail North Loop Gap Countryside	Enterprise Rd to Chesnut Sr. Park; SUN Trail; Proposed Alignment Change Not Completed, Construction has begun, Est. Complete 2022 (link)
Pinellas Trail South Loop Phase 3 & 4	Haines Bayshore to Ulmerton Rd to 126th Ave; Segment of South Loop has will receive SUN Trail and FDOT_Funding; Design in 2022; Construction 2024
Pinellas Trail Loop – Duke Energy Trail	NE Coachman to Sunset Point; Penny for Pinellas funded; Construction Est. Complete February 2021 (link)
71st Street Trail Connector	Pinellas Trail to 38th Avenue N; Design 2022, Construction 2024
San Martin Bridge & Trail connection	PD&E Study for Detailed Analysis of approved alignment Public Hearing postponed due to COVID-19 (link) Sharrows were installed summer 2019
Courtney Campbell Trail Overpass	Trail Overpass at S.R. 60/Bayshore Blvd; SUN Trail; Design Underway; Construction 2024
Howard Frankland Bridge Trail	FDOT include trail with new bridge construction; Design-Build Project; Est. Construction start 2020 and completed 2024 (link)
Gandy Bridge Trail	FDOT to include trail with new bridge construction; PD&E Study Underway
Harn Boulevard Overpass	Pedestrian Overpass; Design Underway; Construction 2021 (link)
Bayway Trail South	SR 679 & Tierra Verde Bridge Replacement Est. Complete 2021 (link)
Oldsmar Trail Phase 6	Douglas Rd (Stevens Avenue to Race Track Rd) Design complete; Est. Construction end of 2020; section from Hayes Rd to Stevens Avenue postponed.

10. Other Business

A. Correspondence, Publications, Articles of Interest

Forward Pinellas Committee Meeting Schedule

B. Suggestions for Future Agenda Topics

This item is provided to allow committee members to suggest topics for future PTSTF agendas.

C. Other

If any member has other business to discuss, they may address it under this item.

COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE 2021

PAC (Planners Advisory Committee) 1:30 pm	CAC (Citizens Advisory Committee) 7:00 pm	TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee) 2:00 pm	BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee) 8:30 am	LCB (Local Coordinating Board) 9:15 am	STSC (School Transportation Safety Committee) 9:00 am	PTSTF (Pinellas Trail Security Task Force) 9:00 am
01/04/2021	01/28/2021	01/27/2021	(4 th Mon) 01/25/2021	-----	-----	01/12/2021
02/01/2021	02/25/2021	02/24/2021	(4 th Mon) 02/22/2021	02/16/2021	-----	-----
03/01/2021	03/25/2021	03/24/2021	03/15/2021	-----	03/03/2021	-----
03/29/2021	04/22/2021	04/28/2021	04/19/2021	-----	-----	04/13/2021
05/03/2021	05/27/2021	05/26/2021	05/17/2021	05/18/2021	-----	-----
06/01/2021 Tuesday	*06/24/2021	06/23/2021	06/21/2021	-----	06/02/2021	-----
07/06/2021 Tuesday	*07/22/2021	*07/28/2021	*07/19/2021	-----	-----	07/13/2021
*08/02/2021	08/26/2021	08/25/2021	08/16/2021	-----	-----	-----
08/30/2021	09/23/2021	09/22/2021	09/20/2021	09/21/2021	-----	-----
10/04/2021	10/28/2021	10/27/2021	10/18/2021	-----	10/06/2021	10/12/2021
11/01/2021	Nov/Dec Combined	Nov/Dec Combined	11/15/2021	11/16/2021	-----	-----
*11/29/2021	12/09/2021	12/08/2021	*12/20/2021	-----	-----	-----

(These dates are subject to change)

*Meeting Subject to Cancellation